

Could the modern church actually help people get to HELL?

by [Scott Boyd](#) on Friday, July 29, 2011



First off I really encourage people to share this with others. This has become such a dangerous trend I believe people really need to sound the alarm. As a minister, I have been around church my whole life. I am concerned about what I have seen over the last ten years more than any other time in my life, and possibly the history of this nation that I have studied. Reading this will probably only take you 5-10 mins and googling the scriptures only a few seconds. I encourage you to look up the scriptures to see what the Bible says for yourself.

So there is this growing trend for churches to become "relevant" or "seeker-sensitive." These are big buzz words right now. Like most people in America do, preachers are licking their finger and sticking it in the air to see which way the trends are going and following along. Someone might ask what exactly does "seeker-sensitive" mean. Well, I am sure the definition is vague, but in a practical sense what this is actually causing many in the church world to:

1. Water down sermons and the gospel as to not offend anyone (Gal 1:8)
2. Ignore sin in the church and allow things the Bible clearly says to not allow (1Cor 5:1-12)
3. Care more of what people think rather than what God thinks (Gal 1:10)
4. Not allow the Holy Spirit to move at all (1 Thess 5:19)
5. Offer people a form of godliness but denying the power of God (2 Tim 3:5)
6. Living on milk of the word only (Heb 5:12)

7. Having pews full of people not truly right with God (although some may be) (Matt 16:26)

I was talking with a minister friend of mine yesterday at lunch. He made the statement, "The seeker-sensitive movement is just basic marketing. Give people what THEY WANT and they come in droves." So now we are "Selling" church to people? I want to give you some thoughts about why this is dangerous, it has not worked at all, and if it continues, the final outcome.

The Cowardly Preacher

2 Tim 4:3 "For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear."

We are living in the end-times. You are seeing with your eyes end-time prophecy being fulfilled although you may not realize it if you are not a student of Bible prophecy. I would talk more about it, but this is a teaching on something so different I can't get that side-tracked. Read Matthew 24 and you will see everything Jesus spoke of happening now. 2 Timothy 4:3 is another end-time prophecy being fulfilled in our time. Some preachers out there enjoy their financial status, the reputation of their church, padded pockets, their retirement, overall just the comfortable life they are living running the "business" of their church. The last thing they want to do is to rock the boat. Just give the people what they want, retire one day with lots of money, and let someone else take over the church. There are many problems with this, but one big problem is these preachers are being unfaithful stewards of what God has entrusted them with. I would hate to be in the shoes of the preacher that half his congregation ended up in Hell.

Matthew 7

13 "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. 14 But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

True and False Prophets

15 "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. 16 By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree

bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

True and False Disciples

21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' 23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'

The Wise and Foolish Builders

24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

A scary thought about this teaching of Jesus is, you cannot truly prophecy, release healing, and especially drive out demons without being a Christian. Look at Acts 19:14-20

False Converts

One thing that is extremely dangerous is the producing of so many false converts. The Bible teaches us

1 John 3:7 "Dear children, do not let anyone lead you astray. The one who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. 8 The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. 9 No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God. 10 This is how we know who the children of God are and who the children of the devil are: Anyone who does not do what is right is not God's child, nor is anyone who does not love their brother and sister." 2 Cor 5:17 "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come."

2 Cor 13:5 "Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you--unless, of course, you fail the test?" Phil 2:12 "Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling"

When reading the book of Acts you never see any Apostle or church leader worried about the "BLING" of the church decor. It wasn't about all these frivolous things. The thought wasn't "if we put on a good rock concert of a worship time, or if the preacher dresses cool, or if the change the look of the church we can get more people. What marked the early church Jesus planted was 1. The power of the Holy Spirit and 2. The preaching of the pure gospel without compromise. This of course cost many of them their lives.

What is happening is preachers are producing false converts who have not actually had a born-again experience. They believed they are "saved" because their preacher tells them they are. They think they are going to heaven because they go to church, or give money, or said some little prayer they were told to. Here is a good video to watch that will help clear up a lot of these myths: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cncEhCvrVgQ>

When someone is truly born of God, they will give up their sin and follow Jesus to the death. Anything less is not true Biblical Christianity.

The Great Falling Away

The Bible clearly predicts there will be a great falling away. 2 Thess 2 records this prophecy by saying:

"1. Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers and sisters, 2. not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by the teaching allegedly from us—whether by a prophecy or by word of mouth or by letter—asserting that the day of the Lord has already come. 3. Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come **until the rebellion occurs** and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. 4.

He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God."

The "rebellion" spoke of in verse 3 is also translated "falling away" in the King James version. This falling away is the Greek word *APOSTICIA* in which we derive our word apostate. An apostate by definition is someone that once walked with God, but has not turned their back on Christ. The Bible predicts a "GREAT APOSTICIA" will mark the end-times before Jesus' coming. Also, Jesus' first prediction about the end-times is that there would be great deception (Matt 24). Jesus stated concerning the end-times "Be careful that no one deceive you in any way." Great deception and offenses are causing a great falling away. People we used to worship with are now living in sin. People that once were Christians are now witches, athiests, or homosexuals. The seeker-sensitive church will be a false prophetic voice that states "you can still be in heaven one day. Let me tell you how to have a happy life in the here and now." What good would it do if they do have a happy life now, to just end up spending eternity in a lake of fire. The seeker-sensitive church is pacifying people that feel the conviction of the Holy Spirit to get right. It is watering down the gospel. People can have their latte, watch their cool concert of a worship service, hear their little motivational speech, hang out of their country club of friends, and go home completely unchanged whatsoever. That cool pastor that is so funny, dresses so sharp, handsome, and that expensive building, but yet he is not telling you the truth of the word. You better get in prayer and let the Holy Spirit lead you to a place of truth and power in these end-times the Bible predicts will be perilous.

What is the Result?

Well the result is people are falling right and left into deception, falling away from pure Christianity, and accepting counterfeits. I was very alarmed when I heard one of the leaders of this seeker-friendly movement telling churches to take down all their crosses as to not offend anyone! Now there are great deceptions like this:

1. A blend of Christianity and witchcraft: <http://hub.webring.org/hub/pagans4jesus>
2. A blend of Islam and Christianity: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chrislam>
3. A blend of homosexuality and Christianity: <http://www.gaychurch.org/>
4. Unitarian beliefs (all go to heaven even without Christ): <http://www.uua.org/>

When the church ceases to be the powerful anointed voice crying out in the wilderness condemning sin, preaching repentance, preaching the truth of God's word, preaching the gospel, operating in the power of the Holy Spirit, then the church becomes worldly and deception creeps in. These four examples I used above are just a drop in the bucket. There is much more deception out there!

The antichrist will unite the world with a one-world currency, a one-world government, and a one-world religion. I believe the one-world religion will be a universal acceptance of all religions in a false sense of peace. This will actually be a form of New Age occult, eastern religions, and probably some Catholic or counterfeit Christian beliefs brought in. I believe this seeker-friendly movement is helping to make the way for this.

Side Note

My personal opinion is that Islam is the prince of Persia that will help prepare the way for the Antichrist, but I don't believe Islam will be the one-world religion, and I don't believe the antichrist will be a Muslim. The reformers thought the exact same thing about the Roman Catholic church and the Pope in the 1500's. Those in Hitler's day thought it about Hitler and the Nazi movement. The prince of Persia (possibly the false prophet might arise from this) will help make way for the Prince of Greece which will mark the rise of the antichrist. Daniel 10:20

Book of Acts Christianity

If Jesus didn't begin his ministry without being clothed with the Holy Spirit's power (Luke 4:18-19), and then told the early church to not start theirs until they are clothed with power (Luke 24:49), how have we gotten so arrogant that we think we don't need the Holy Spirit's power (Acts 1:8). Since when can we do anything without God's help? The Holy Spirit is the one that teaches people the Bible, convicts of sin, and changes lives!

We need to return to true Biblical Christianity that preaches the truth of God's word without compromise and operates in the power of the Holy Spirit! Be careful who you are following and make sure they know where they are going.

1 Cor 2:1 "When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. 2. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. 3. I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. 4. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, 5. so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power."

1 Cor 1:18 "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."

A preacher was asked why he never preached on the book of Acts to his church, he responded, they won't receive it. Man preach it anyway and let them leave! Here are a few scriptures you will probably never hear preached on in modern pulpits.

Hebrews 10:19 Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

26 If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, 27 but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. 28 Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge his people." 31 It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

1 Peter 4:18 "And, "If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

1 Corinthians 6:9 "Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God."

Galatians 5:19 "The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God."

Revelation 21:8 "But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death."

Thoughts to Ponder

Religion is absence of an experience.

When we stop being transformed we start being conformed.

Education replaced character. It is dangerous to educate people and never deal with their character

Psychology and psychiatry replaced discernment

Programs and plans of men have substituted the leading of the Holy Spirit

Eloquence replaced the demonstration of the power of God

Apostles and prophets were replaced by good administrators

Logic and reason have substituted the walk of faith

Positive thinking has substituted the message of the cross. The cross is the source for all provision.

Satan tries to eclipse the cross by being seeker friendly